

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Yasuhiko MATSUOKA *et al.*

Attorney Docket No.: KOJIM 200 D1

Serial No.: New Divisional/Unassigned

Group Art Unit: 1732

Filed: September 24, 1997

Examiner: S. McDowell

For: REPLICA MOLDING

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, kindly amend the application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel claims 1-5 without prejudice or disclaimer.

REMARKS

The application is amended to direct the claims to the apparatus embodiment restricted from the parent application, Serial No. 08/936,553.

The amendments do not narrow the scope of the invention and/or were not made for reasons related to patentability. The amendments should not be interpreted as acquiescence to any potential objection or rejection in this application. Applicants reserve the right to file one or more continuing and/or divisional applications directed to any subject matter disclosed in the application, which has been canceled by any of the above amendments.

Favorable action on the application is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned to discuss any unresolved matters.

Respectfully submitted,

Filed: 12/19/01


John A. Sopp (Reg. No. 33,103)

Attorney for Applicants
MILLEN, WHITE, ZELANO & BRANIGAN, P.C.
2200 Clarendon Blvd., Suite 1400
Arlington, VA 22201
Direct Dial: (703) 812-5315
Internet address: sopp@mwzb.com